

PIPELINE CLOSING APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pipeline closing apparatus comprises a lid member attachable to a downstream end portion of a sluice valve, a first control shaft extending through the lid member, a second control shaft extending through the first control shaft, an elastic annular member disposed between pressing plates provided on inward end regions of the control shafts and elastically deformable to a diameter-increased position by being clamped and pressed, thereby to block between an inner peripheral surface of a branch pipe and the pressing plates, and a retaining device. The retaining device includes engaging link pairs flexing and bulging to a diameter-increased position in response to outward sliding movement of the second control shaft relative to the first control shaft. The apparatus further comprises a reversal preventing device F which contacts and limits the engaging link pairs to an outwardly bent position where flexing pivotal portions of the engaging link pairs project radially outward.